

BOROUGH OF WELSHPOOL

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



**YEAR 1958**

MAYOR:  
Councillor C. S. Thomas.

MEMBERS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1958:  
Aldermen W. C. Ainge, T. Gittins, W. R. Humphreys, W. Richards; Councillors S. H. Bagshaw, H. Blockley, R. Cowey, J. H. Emberton, G. C. E. Jones, J. H. Lloyd, A. F. Mapp, E. J. Rushgrove, R. P. Turner, W. H. Watson, W. P. Whittall.

CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:  
Alderman W. Richards.

TOWN CLERK:  
J. Ben Davies, M.B.E.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:  
I. B. Millar, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

ADDRESS OF MEDICAL OFFICER:  
Welshpool Borough Council Offices, Broad Street, Welshpool.  
TELEPHONE NUMBER OF MEDICAL OFFICER:  
Welshpool 3142.

BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR:  
F. A. Lodge, A.R.I.C.S., M.S.A.I., Cert.  
(Meat and Foods)

## **To the Welshpool Borough Council**

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1958. It follows the scheme and deals with the subjects required by the Minister of Health.

The statistics compare favourably with the national rates of births, deaths and infant deaths and the population shows a slight increase. The component of the infantile mortality relating to the newborn was very satisfactory (in contrast to 1957), but it was counter balanced by a moderate increase in the mortality among infants later in the first year of life. Probably three-quarters of these later deaths were inevitable as adjudged by present-day standards of infant care.

In the section of this Report dealing with the sanitary circumstances of the area a reference is made for the first time to the amounts of the naturally-occurring chemical substances known as "fluorides" in the drinking waters of the Borough. The chemical analyses revealed that both of the main sources of water contained hardly any of these substances, the active ingredient of which is the teeth-protecting element fluorine. When this fact is viewed in the light of the known high rate of dental ill-health in Welshpool, it is obvious that a state exists which will shortly call for some action on the part of those responsible for water supplies. The problem is not peculiar to this area and is as widespread as the large geological tracts devoid of fluorine or seriously deficient in it. In Welshpool however, it is aggravated by several factors, such as the difficulty in obtaining dental staff and the indifference of parents. A school dental officer, who relinquished his appointment in Montgomeryshire last year, gave it as his opinion that the biggest problem is not the lack of a clinic, nor the increased consumption of sweets, nor the deplorable lack of oral hygiene, but sheer indifference on the part of the parents. The percentage of children referred for treatment is high but in Welshpool the number accepting treatment tends to be low (only about 30% in 1956) and of these, the number carrying

the treatment through to its logical conclusion is lamentably small. It is not much wonder that this officer described the situation as heart-breaking.

With adverse factors such as these at work it is clear that some action of a more comprehensive type should be contemplated. In a study of the natural order of things one finds the answer waiting to be exploited by all mankind. Indeed 33 million people in 1600 American communities were already last year drinking water to which fluorides had been added and were thus reaping the benefits of such exploitation. In communities, whose drinking water contains the right amount of fluorides, the average number of diseased, missing or filled teeth per 12-14 year-old child may be 2 instead of 8 elsewhere. The general health statistics of such communities are similar to those having no fluorides except for this striking difference in dental health. When it is realised that 89% of Welshpudlians suffer from dental cares, the possibilities of improvement are enormous and it is hard to envisage a better way of effecting this improvement than by emulating the exemplary pattern already known to exist in nature. This can be achieved by a simple adjustment of the amount of fluorides in the drinking water so as to resemble those areas where a sufficiency of fluorine already exists. It is true that you will be handing over the responsibility for the Borough's water supplies to a County Water Board in the near future, so that the pertinence of these remarks might seem to be diminished, but your representatives on the Board may well be able to pursue this idea and at least they may be able to ensure that a place is secured for it when new projects are being developed in this district. A more general sanction may be given in due course for the installation of fluoridation equipment in all water supplies that need it.

The local health services under Part III of the National Health Service Act 1946 continued to operate satisfactorily during the year on the lines described in previous Annual Reports. The new clinic on Salop Road which began to operate in August, proved to be a most valuable asset. With

the exception of the dental rooms which were unused during the year, child health clinics, vaccination sessions, meetings and discussion groups were held with much success. The reason for the paradoxical situation whereby new dental accommodation should be provided for the Borough only to remain silent and unused was the lack of dental staff already mentioned. Immunisation sessions were arranged in connection with the protection of vulnerable groups of the population against such diseases as diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis. I have pleasure in reporting that the B.C.G. Vaccination Scheme was initiated in the area during the year and was well received. Although Montgomeryshire has shared in the general decline of tuberculosis mortality, this decline has not been as distinct in regard to the notification of new cases. For example, since 1939 the decline of mortality has been of the order of 90% in Montgomeryshire, but new cases have decreased by 60% in the non-pulmonary type and by only 38% in the pulmonary type. The County Medical Officer in his 1958 Annual Report has observed that the reduction in the number of non-pulmonary tuberculosis cases is probably due largely to the improvement of milk production, particularly in regard to "Tuberculin Tested" and "Pasturised" milks. With B.C.G. vaccine now in use as a new weapon in this area, it is reasonable to hope that this differential against the reduction in number of pulmonary cases will be abolished or even reversed. In my opinion this would be likely to happen sooner if B.C.G. vaccination were used more extensively than at present.

It remains for me to express my sincere thanks to you Mr. Mayor and fellow members of the Council for your friendly support at all times and I must also record my thanks to the Public Health Inspector for his assistance in the preparation of this report as in other matters throughout the year.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

I. B. MILLAR,

Medical Officer of Health.

## GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area of the District—20,427 Acres.

Estimated Mid-Year Population: 6,080.

Number of Inhabited Houses (according to Rate Book):  
1,972.

Rateable Value at 31st March, 1958: £57,760.

Sum represented by Penny Rate: £227.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Population: This shows an increase of 10 since last year.

### LIVE BIRTHS

Legitimate:	Male	...	...	...	...	54
	Female	...	...	...	...	54
Illegitimate:	Male	...	...	...	...	3
	Female	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	...	...	113

**Illegitimacy Rate:** 4.4 per cent. of all live births.

In addition 101 births (43 males, 58 female) took place in the Borough but were registered elsewhere.

**Crude Birth Rate:** 18.58 per 1,000 total population.

Crude Birth Rate in Montgomeryshire in 1958: 16.0 per 1,000 population.

Crude Birth Rate in Wales in 1958: 16.2 per 1,000 population.



**Welshpool Birth Rate** (corrected for age and sex distribution): 17.84 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Birth Rate in 1958: 16.4 (provisional).

## STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate: Male, 1 — Total: 1.

**Stillbirth Rate**: 8.8 per 1,000 live and stillbirths.

Montgomeryshire Stillbirth Rate, 1958: 20.4.

Wales Stillbirth Rate, 1958: 26.3.

England and Wales Stillbirth Rate, 1958: 21.6 (provisional)

Total Live and Still Births: 114.

## INFANT MORTALITY

(a) Neonated Deaths: Legitimate, Male: 2 — Total: 2.

**Neonated Mortality**: 17.7 per 1,000 live births.

England and Wales Neonated Mortality, 1958: 16.2 (provisional).

(b) Postnatal Deaths: Legitimate, Female: 2 — Total: 2.

**Postnatal Mortality**: 17.7 per 1,000 live births.

England and Wales Postnatal Mortality, 1958: 6.4 (provisional).

(c) Total Infant Deaths: Male: 2; Female: 2. Total: 4.

**Total Infant Mortality**: 35.4 per 1,000 live births.

**Total Infant Mortality** (Legitimate Births): 37 per 1,000 live births.

**Total Infant Mortality** (Illegitimate Births): Nil.

Montgomeryshire Infant Mortality Rate, 1958: 25.

Wales Infant Mortality Rate, 1958: 26.6.

England and Wales Infant Mortality Rate, 1958: 22.6 (provisional).

(d) **Perinated Mortality**: 17.54 per 1,000 total births.

England and Wales P.M.R., 1958: 35.1 (provisional).

This mortality was caused by one male infant death and one female stillbirth.

The infant death was caused by atelectasis and prematurity in one of twins. The stillbirth was due to a congenital malformation. Both the death and the stillbirth occurred in hospital.

Maternal Deaths and Maternal Mortality: Nil.

## DEATHS

All Causes: Male	...	...	...	...	39
Female	...	...	...	...	30
Total	...	...	...	...	69

**Crude Death Rate**: 11.35 per 1,000 population.

Montgomeryshire Crude Death Rate, 1958: 12.59 per 1,000 population.

Wales Death Rate, 1958: 12.5 per 1,000 population.

Death Rate after correction for age and sex distribution: 11.8 per 1,000 population.



England and Wales Death Rate, 1958: 11.7 (provisional)

Average age at death excluding deaths

under one year ... .. 69.6 years

Male ... .. 65.5 „

Female ... .. 75 „

Average age at death due to cancer ... 68.1 years

Male ... .. 62.5 „

Female ... .. 71.8 „

Average age at death due to coronary

disease ... .. 70 years

Male ... .. 66.2 „

Female ... .. 76.3 „

Average age at death due to accidents ... 47.5 years

Average age at death (excluding cancer,

coronary disease and accidents ... .. 71.7 years

Male ... .. 66.9 „

Female ... .. 79.7 „

DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE, SEX AND CAUSE IN 1958:

Cause	Sex	Under 1 year	Age Groups				Total	
			30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	M	F
Tuberculosis, respiratory	M	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Malignant neoplasm breast	F	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
" uterus	F	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
" ovary	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
" rectum	F	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
" colon	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
" pancreas	M	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
" liver	M	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
" tongue	M	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
" other	M	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	M	—	—	—	—	4	8	—
Coronary disease	F	—	—	—	—	1	—	8
	M	—	—	—	2	1*	5	—
	F	—	—	—	1*	—	—	3
Hypertension with heart disease	M	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
	F	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Other heart disease	M	—	—	—	—	4	7	—
	F	—	—	—	—	2	—	5
Influenza	M	—	1	—	1	—	2	—
Pneumonia	M	—	—	1*	—	—	2	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis	M	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	—	—	—	1*	—	1	—
Congenital malformations	M	1*	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	1*	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	—	—	—	1*	2*	4	—
	F	—	—	—	1*	—	1	2
Motor vehicle accidents	M	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
All other accidents	F	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
TOTALS	M	2	2	1	6	12	39	—
	F	2	1	—	1	4	—	30
GRAND TOTALS		4	3	1	7	16	2	69

\*denotes multiple causes as follows:—

Vascular lesions of the nervous system: One male death was also associated with cancer of the prostate; One female death in age group 70—80 years was also associated with chronic bronchitis; One female death in age group 80—90 years was also associated with diabetes.

Coronary disease: One male death in age group 70—80 years was also associated with pulmonary embolism. The male death in age group 60—70 years was also associated with multiple thrombosis of the legs. The female death was also associated with diabetes.

Other heart disease: This death was also associated with cancer of the colon.

11 Pneumonia: This death was associated with bronchiectasis.

Ulcer of stomach and duodenum: This death was also associated with disseminated sclerosis.

Congenital malformation: Meningocele in the male and heart disease in the female accounted for these deaths

Other defined and ill-defined diseases: Reading from left to right, atelectasis, intestinal obstruction, rheumatoid arthritis and pyonephrosis were associated with the male deaths and thyrotoxicosis and strangulated hernia with the female deaths.

Other accidents: These were caused by alcoholic poisoning (age groups 50—60), and a fall downstairs (age group 70—80).

NOTE: Malignant neoplasms were concerned in 12 of these deaths.

# COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

Year	Popula- tion	Live Birth Rate		Still Birth Rate		Death Rate		Infant Mortality		Perinatal Mortality	
1946	5,714	21.9	19.1	24.2	27.2	12.8	11.5	32.0	42.9	44.3	
1947	5,856	20.7	20.5	16.1	24.1	12.3	12.0	24.5	41.4	40.3	
1948	5,817	21.8	17.9	23.0	23.2	11.7	10.8	15.7	33.9	38.5	
1949	5,865	22.4	16.7	14.9	22.7	11.3	11.7	30.3	32.4	38.0	
1950	6,048	18.0	15.8	18.0	22.7	11.9	11.6	45.9	29.6	37.7	
1951	5,980	23.1	15.5	7.2	23.0	14.2	12.5	28.9	29.7	38.1	
1952	5,952	21.2	15.3	15.6	22.7	10.9	11.3	31.7	27.6	37.5	
1953	5,980	18.1	15.5	35.7	22.5	10.2	11.4	27.7	26.8	62.5	37.0
1954	6,010	15.2	15.2	20.6	23.5	11.3	11.3	21.0	25.5	31.0	38.1
1955	6,020	17.5	15.0	9.0	23.2	10.2	11.7	9.1	24.9	18.0	37.6
Average for											
1946-55	5,924	20.1	16.6	18.12	23.5	11.7	11.6	26.9	31.5	38.6	
1956	6,070	13.6	15.6	44.4	22.9	11.2	11.7	11.6	23.7	44.4	36.8
1957	6,070	15.0	16.1	59.4	22.5	10.6	11.5	42.1	23.1	99.0	36.2
1958	6,080	17.8	16.4	8.8	21.6	11.8	11.7	35.4	22.6	17.5	35.1

**Note.**—The second set of figures refers to England and Wales.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA—1958

### 1. WATER

#### TOWN SUPPLY.

(a) Rainfall figures for the year:—

January	3.17	July	5.21
February	4.2	August	2.93
March	1.29	September	6.13
April	.7	October	3.8
May	3.25	November	2.04
June	3.85	December	3.48

Total for year 40.05 inches

This compares with 35.08 inches in 1957 and 32.15 inches in 1956.

(b) Minimum supply to reservoirs was 210,203 gallons per day recorded on 30th June, 1958. Minimum waste line was 1,500 gallons per hour. Average consumption was 120,000 gallons per day.

(c) The connections to the town supply are as follows:—  
1,417 houses, 195 Other properties, 1 farm, 2 small holdings, 4 drinking troughs.

#### GUILDSFIELD AND GROES WATER SUPPLY.

This district is supplied with water from the Trinity Well Scheme and a supply is available from the Glyn Springs when an emergency arises.

#### TREWERN WATER SUPPLY.

This district is supplied with water from the Gelli Springs

and continues to operate independently though the undertaking is connected to the Trinity Well Supply for use during emergencies.

The total number of properties now supplied from this source is at follows:—

13 farms, 97 dwellings, 3 drinking troughs, 1 standpipe,  
2 other properties.

A metered supply of water is being provided to Criggion Radio Station.

A bulk water supply is provided off Criggion for Forden R.D.C.

#### CASTLE CAEREINION WATER SUPPLY.

The total number of properties now supplied is as follows:

3 farms, 2 small holdings, 22 dwellings, 2 other properties.

#### TRINITY WELL WATER SUPPLY.

At the end of the year the following properties were receiving a supply of water from the Trinity Well source:—

312 houses, 40 farms, including farm houses, 1 hospital,  
67 drinking troughs (not metered), 7 other properties, 13  
standpipes, 2 schools.

The daily consumption is 58,000 gallons.

A bulk water supply is provided at Pool Quay for Llanfyllin R.D.C.

#### HOPE VILLAGE.

It is hoped to extend the mains to supply Hope Village next year.



## LONG MOUNTAIN WATER SCHEME.

Work on this scheme will commence very early next year. The scheme consists of the collection of water at Mulsop Farm, Trelystan, pumping to a Reservoir and distribution by 3 miles of 3" main. It is intended that 20 properties will be supplied with water.

## BELAN WATER SCHEME.

Work on the extension of the town's main from Oldford as far as Sarnybryncled will commence very early next year. This will then provide a permanent supply of water for the Montgomeryshire Agricultural Show as well as a supply for the Royal Welsh Show in 1960 and 17 other properties.

## SAMPLES.

During the year 93 samples were submitted for bacteriological analysis, the results being:—

Town Supply	Trinity Well
22 Class 1	16 Class 1
1 Class 2	1 Class 3
1 Class 4	
Castle Caereinion	Gelli
3 Class 1	12 Class 1
1 Class 2	1 Class 2
2 Class 3	1 Class 3
3 Class 4	
Groes—Glyn	Private
10 Class 1	8 Class 1
1 Class 3	3 Class 2
	7 Class 4

Two Chemical analysis were submitted during the year. The one from Trinity Well contained less than 0.1 pts per million Fluorides and the one from the Town Supply contained 0.1 pts. per million Fluorides. Both were satisfactory.

## 2. FOOD

In February a report was received from the Medical Officer of Health for Liverpool informing us that imported apples contaminated with Arsenic and Lead might have arrived in this district. This was found to be true and the consignment was not distributed by the wholesaler concerned.

132 certificates in respect of food surrendered as unfit for human consumption were issued in 1958 as against 184 certificates in 1957.

Summary of food condemned is as follows:—

201 tins food, 14 tins Milk, 6 lb. Tongue, 195 lbs. 12 oz. Cooked Ham, 33 lbs. Corned Beef, 33 lbs. 8 oz. Pork Luncheon Meat, 24 Packets Cheese, 27 pieces Cake, 4 dozen Fish Cakes, 1½ cwt. Potatoes.

### ICE CREAM.

There are no manufacturers of Ice Cream in the district.

Four applications for registration of premises from retailers were granted making a total of 29 in the Borough.

### MILK ORDERS.

5 Dealer's licences were issued authorising the use of 'Tuberculin Tested' milk and 3 Dealer's licences authorising the use of special designation 'Pasteurised.'

### MILK SAMPLING.

Out of a total of 27 samples submitted for laboratory examination during the year 16 were reported to be satisfactory. Of the remaining eleven, eight were from one dairy mainly in the latter half of the year. The Milk Advisory Department of the Agricultural Executive Committee was consulted and eventually a satisfactory sample was obtained from this dairy.

## FOOD CLEANLINESS.

10 inspections were made during the year to ensure compliance with the Council's byelaws relating to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are three registered slaughterhouses in the town which are kept in fairly good condition.

## MEAT INSPECTION.

The quality of stock slaughtered was extremely high.

The following table gives the relevant details for 1958:—

### Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in Part

	Cattle excluding			Sheep and		
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	119	—	—	727	2075	—
Number inspected	119	—	—	727	2075	—
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</b>						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	15	45	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	1.7	—	—	2	2.2	—
<b>Tuberculosis only:</b>						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Cysticercosis:</b>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

### 3. SEWERAGE.

TOWN. 51 houses have been connected to the sewer during the year. Discharge of sewage is still into the River Severn.

PROPOSED NEW SCHEME. Little progress has been made with the new Sewage Disposal Works Scheme.

GUILDSFIELD. This village is sewered on the combined system to a disposal plant which is maintained in good order and gives little trouble.

TREWERN. The Council's housing estate is sewered on the separate system, the sewage being treated at the sewage disposal plant which is maintained in good order.

CASTLE CAEREINION. This village is sewered on the combined system to an unsatisfactory disposal plant. Negotiations concerning a suitable site for a new works have still not been successful.

POOL QUAY. The disposal plant for this village is maintained in good order and gives no trouble.

### 4. DRAINAGE.

All drains laid, other than for Council houses, were tested by the Department.

### 5. SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

17 informal notices were served during the year requiring repairs to roofs, construction of new W.C.'s, drains, etc.

125 blocked drains were dealt with without the serving of any notices.

## §. FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

### PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Inspection	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	46	10	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. ..	—	—	—	—
Total .. ..	46	10	—	—

2. CASES in which defects were found.

No defects were found.

### PART VII OF THE ACT.

#### OUTWORK :

Number of Outworkers	...	...	...	...	Nil
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7. DISINFECTIONS.

Following outbreaks of infectious disease and filthy condition of premises two houses were disinfected.

8. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS.

The arrangements for dealing with Rodent destruction were continued and the results were as follows:—

2 warehouses have been inspected, one of which was

treated for mice. The town sewers were treated on two occasions, the first resulting in 15 poison "takes" and 10 "takes" on the second. 4 school canteens have been inspected, 3 of which have been treated for mice, and one school for rats with satisfactory results. The Smithfield was treated on 3 occasions. The Library was treated on 2 occasions for rats and mice. 6 farms have been treated with satisfactory results. 75 private houses in the Borough were treated. 4 business premises have been treated.

#### MATERIALS USED.

Sausage Rusk	Oat Meal	Pin Head Oatmeal	Poison
71lbs. 4oz.	564lbs. 4 oz.	36lbs.	28lbs. 4oz.

#### 9. HOUSE REFUSE.

Weekly collections of refuse are made from all houses in the town and bi-weekly collections from all villages and houses en-route. Disposal is by controlled tipping on waste land conveniently situate half a mile from the town centre.

One acre of reclaimed land has been reseeded.

#### 10. SHOPS AND OFFICES.

The provisions of the Shops Act were complied with and no Court action was found necessary.

#### 11. HOUSING.

##### HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:

By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	50
By Private Enterprise		...	...	...	...	1

##### HOUSES IN COURSE OF ERECTION AT END OF YEAR.

By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	19
By Private Enterprise		...	...	...	...	5

Total number of applicants for Council houses at end of year: 380.



## HOUSING IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Since we took over responsibility for the scheme the following is the position:—

Total No. of Applications received to Dec., 1958.	Total No. of Applications granted to Dec., 1958	No of Grants Paid to Dec. 1958	Total Amount of Grants to Dec., 1958	No. of Applica- tions received 1958	Total Amount Paid in 1958
45	38	26	£6,406	9	£2,926

## HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

Number of defective dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority Officers: 3.

Number of houses which are in confirmed Clearance Orders and still occupied: 7.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During 1958 there were 63 notifications distributed among 5 diseases as follows:—

				Male	Female	Total
Measles	..	..	..	19	20	39
Pneumonia	..	..	..	8	10	18
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	1	1	2
Puerperal Fever		..	..	—	1	1
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	1	2	3
Totals	..	..	..	29	34	63

### Measles Notifications:

The 39 notifications of measles related to 23 families. The average age of the cases was 5.75 years (male 6.6, female 4.9). As stated in last year's Annual Report most of these cases occurred in the rural part of the Borough, most likely in as-

sociation with the large number of cases occurring in Foiden Rural District at that time.

The following table gives an analysis of the cases:

#### MEASLES NOTIFICATIONS.

Age	M.	F.	1st Qtr.		2nd Qtr.		3rd Qtr.	
Under 1 year ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—2 years ..	2	2	1	2	—	—	1	—
2—3 years ..	2	2	—	—	1	1	1	1
3—4 years ..	—	4	—	3	—	—	—	1
4—5 years ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total under 5 years	5	9	1	5	1	1	3	3
5—6 years ..	2	1	1	1	1	—	—	—
6—7 years ..	2	2	2	2	—	—	—	—
7—8 years ..	3	4	2	4	1	—	—	—
9—10 years ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total 5—10 years ..	8	7	6	7	2	—	—	—
10—11 years ..	2	1	2	1	—	—	—	—
11—12 years ..	3	1	3	1	—	—	—	—
14—15 years ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Age unknown ..	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	19	20	12	16	4	1	3	3

It is gratifying to report that, as far as could be ascertained, there were no serious complications among these cases. There were no deaths.

#### PNEUMONIA.

The notifications of pneumonia occurred throughout the year as shown in the following table. Six of the cases were of the influenzal type.

Age Group.	Totals:		1st Qtr.		2nd Qtr.		3rd Qtr.		4th Qtr.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
10—20 years ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
30—40 years ..	1	2	—	—	—	—	1*	2(1*)	—	—
40—50 years ..	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
50—60 years ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
60—70 years ..	1	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	2(1)*	—
70—80 years ..	3	2	—	—	1*	1	1	—	1	1*
80—90 years ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1*
Over 90 years ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	8	10	1	—	4	2	2	3	1	5

\* Influenzal Pneumonia.

There were no deaths among these notified cases. In the table showing causes of death, however, it will be seen that

there were three deaths due to pneumonia, all unnotified. The younger of these died at the age of one month. Of the two adult deaths one had had a long history of lung disease and the other was a male over seventy years of age.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

(a) Pulmonary: There was only one case, a male in the 60—70 age group, who was admitted to hospital and remained there for fourteen months.

The death due to pulmonary tuberculosis recorded in the statistics although a male in the 60—70 age group, was not this case.

(b) Non-Pulmonary: There were two cases, a female in the 40—50 age group and a female aged 11 years.

The death rate for all forms of tuberculosis in Welshpool compares favourably with that for Montgomeryshire and for the country generally. For Montgomeryshire this was 67 per million and for England and Wales it was about 100 per million in the year 1958.

The number of new cases occurring in Montgomeryshire during 1958 was 26, which is over three times the expected number if based on statistics for England and Wales. This high morbidity rate despite the low mortality rate points to a considerable reserve of infection still present in the community. B.C.G. vaccination as given to school leavers should therefore result in a gradual lessening in the number of new cases. The Ministry of Health has not as yet extended the scheme to other age groups, but my experience of a complete Vaccination Scheme in Northern Ireland has left me with the impression that it shared much of the credit for the remarkable fall in mortality and new cases there. From one of the highest in the U.K. at the end of the Second World War the number of new cases and deaths in Northern Ireland are now the lowest in the U.K.

## B.C.G. VACCINATION.

A vaccination scheme, using a British preparation of the famous B.C.G. vaccine was applied to Welshpool children in the 13-14 age group for the first time in 1958. The response was excellent. In the two senior schools 108 children were tested and 86 were found to require vaccination, all of whom accepted it.

## POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION.

At the end of 1958 the statistics for the county showed that 81% of the children below 15 years had registered for vaccination and of these registered children 37% had had the complete course of inoculations and 61%, an uncompleted number leaving only 2% not yet treated. The response was very poor for other age-groups, however, only about 5% having registered. Of these about half had commenced the course of injection.

At the time of writing this report the death of a well-known footballer had taken place due to poliomyelitis and as a consequence of this well-publicised case, requests for vaccination from non-school age-groups poured in so that a great improvement is likely to be shown in 1959 in these age-groups.